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a transistor having an enable terminal, an input terminal, and an output terminal, said input terminal coupled to receive binary signals [from the first circuit] that vary between first and second preselected voltage levels, and said output terminal coupled to deliver binary signals [to a second circuit] that vary between the first preselected voltage level and a third preselected voltage level;

a capacitor coupled across said input and output terminals of said transistor; and
a resistive element having a first end portion coupled to the enable terminal of said transistor and a second end portion coupled to a voltage supply to bias the transistor continuously on, the resistive element cooperating with a parasitic capacitor defined by said transistor to increase the voltage applied to the enable terminal during a transition from the first to the second preselected voltage level at the input terminal.

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8. (Fifth Amendment) An apparatus for converting first digital signals that vary between a first and second preselected voltage levels to second digital signals that vary between the first and a third preselected voltage level, comprising:

[a first circuit;]

a pass gate transistor having a gate, source, and drain, said drain coupled to [said first circuit] to receive said first signals, said source coupled to [a second circuit to] deliver said second signals, said gate coupled to a voltage supply;

a capacitor coupled across said source and drain of said pass gate transistor; and
a pump coupled to the gate of said pass gate transistor, said pump being configured to increase the voltage level applied to said gate during a transition from the first to the second preselected voltage levels.

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13. (Fifth Amendment) An apparatus for converting an input signal that varies between first and second preselected voltage levels to an output signal that varies between the first preselected voltage level and a third preselected voltage level, comprising:

a first circuit;

a pass gate transistor having a gate, source, and drain, said drain coupled to [said first circuit to] receive said input signal, said source coupled [to a second circuit] to deliver said output signal, said gate being coupled to a voltage supply;

a capacitor coupled across said source and drain of said pass gate transistor; and

means for increasing the voltage level applied to said gate during a transition of the input signal from the first to the second preselected voltage level.

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17. (Third Amendment) A buffer circuit, comprising:

a pass gate transistor having a gate, source, and drain, said drain coupled to [a first circuit to] receive a first digital signal that varies between first and second voltage levels;

a first voltage supply coupled to the gate of said pass gate transistor to bias the transistor continuously on;

a capacitor coupled across the source and drain of said pass gate transistor;

an inverter having an input terminal and an output terminal, said input terminal coupled to the source of said pass gate transistor to receive a second digital signal that varies between the first voltage level and a third voltage level;